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SUPER SECRET CRISIS WAR!
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CARTOON NETWORK

SUPER SECRET CRISIS WAR!

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ART BY DEREK CHARM
EDITED BY SARAH GAYDOS & CARLOS GUZMAN
LETTERING BY TOM B. LONG

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BEN 10 created by MAN OF ACTION STUDIOS
DEXTER'S LABORATORY created by GENNDY TARTAKOVSKY
THE POWERPUFF GIRLS created by CRAIG McCRACKEN
ED, EDD N' EDDY created by DANNY ANTONUCCI

Special thanks to Laurie Halal-Ono, Rick Blanco, Jeff Parker and Marisa Marionakis of Cartoon Network.

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LOUISE SIMONSON (writer) has edited and written comics since the dawn of time. ***Power Pack, X-Factor, New Mutants, Red Sonja***, and ***Web of Spider-Man*** for Marvel! ***Superman: Man of Steel, Steel,*** and ***Detective Comics*** for DC! ***Star Wars: River of Chaos*** for Dark Horse! ***World of Warcraft*** for WildStorm/DC! This crazy mix of genres prepared her for her ultimate challenge: ***Super Secret Crisis War!*** for IDW. When she's not laughing at Cartoon Network cartoons–she has to! Really! It's research!--she's in her New York office writing cool stuff or checking in on her artist husband, Walter Simonson.

DEREK CHARM (artist) lives in New York City, where he works as an illustrator creating art for everything from tee-shirts to comic books. Recently he has been lucky enough to write and draw two issues of ***Powerpuff Girls,*** along with drawing covers for ***Powerpuff Girls, Dexter's Laboratory, My Little Pony, Samurai Jack*** and ***Star Trek: Khan*** for IDW. A lifelong fan of comics and the artists behind the original Cartoon Network shows, he is very excited to be working on ***Super Secret Crisis War*** with this amazing crew! When starting a new page, he draws all the Akus first.

SARAH GAYDOS is an editor at IDW Publishing, who loves comics and Internet cats!

CARLOS GUZMAN is an editor at IDW Publishing, who works on fun books like ***Transformers, G.I. Joe*** and ***Samurai Jack!***

TOM B. LONG is a graphic artist at IDW Publishing, who letters many of your most beloved comics!

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Derek Charm

Cover B
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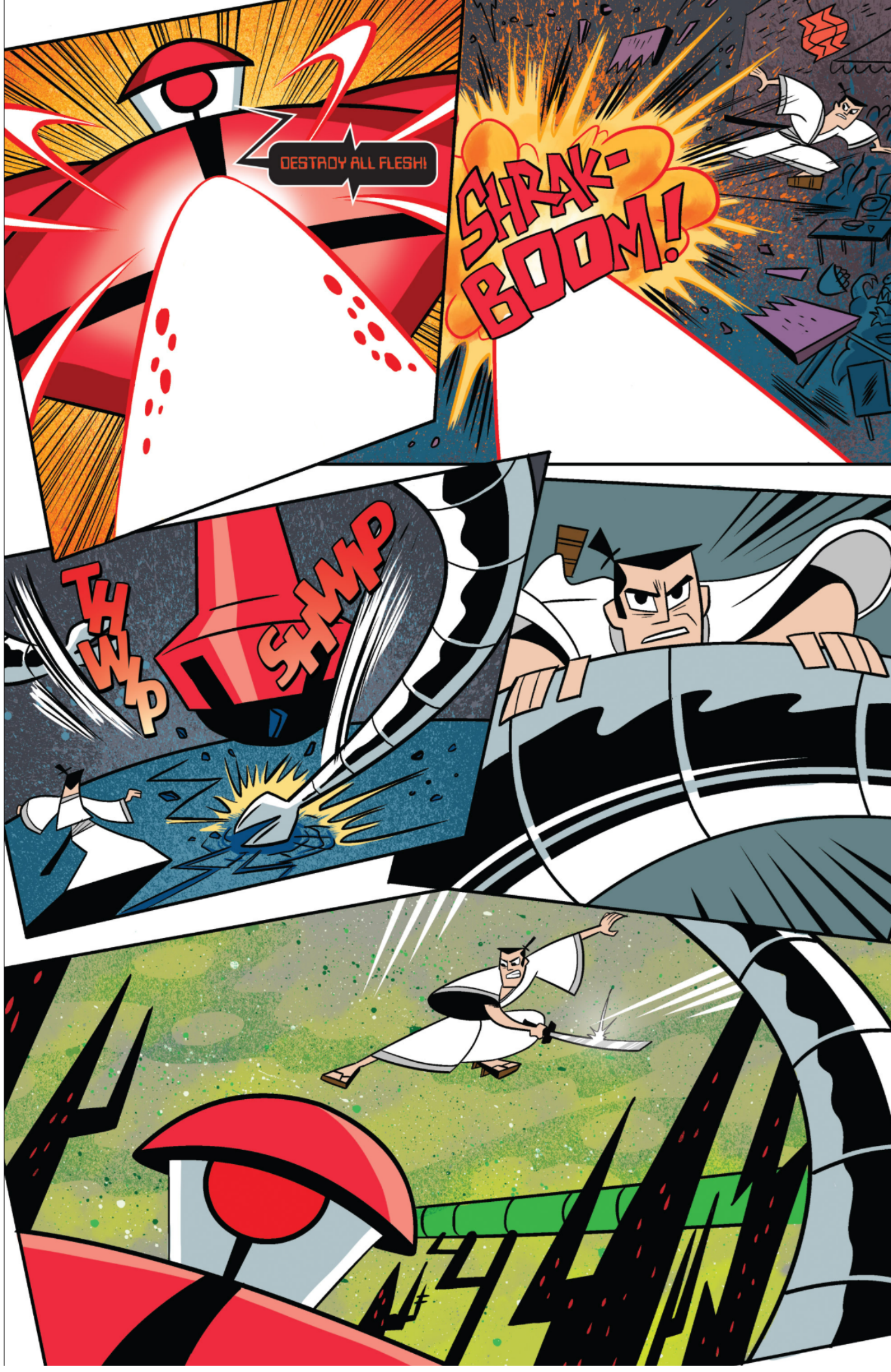
Katie Cook

Sketch Cover

AN APPEALING IDEA—SENDING ROBOTS FROM ONE WORLD TO ENGAGE THE HEROES OF A DIFFERENT WORLD.
OUR HEROES HAVEN'T FACED THESE ROBOTS BEFORE. THEY'LL BE INTRIGUED.
AND EAGER FOR BATTLE! WILLFUL WARRIORS, WISHING—
AND IF THE HEROES DEFEAT OUR ROBOTS, THUS PROVING THEIR WORTHINESS, THEY WILL BE TRANSPORTED HERE.
WHERE THEY WILL BE TRAPPED... AND IN OUR POWER! AND WE—THE LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY VILLAINS—WILL USE THEM TO CONQUER THEIR WORLDS!
IS THIS A PERFECT PLAN OR WHAT?!

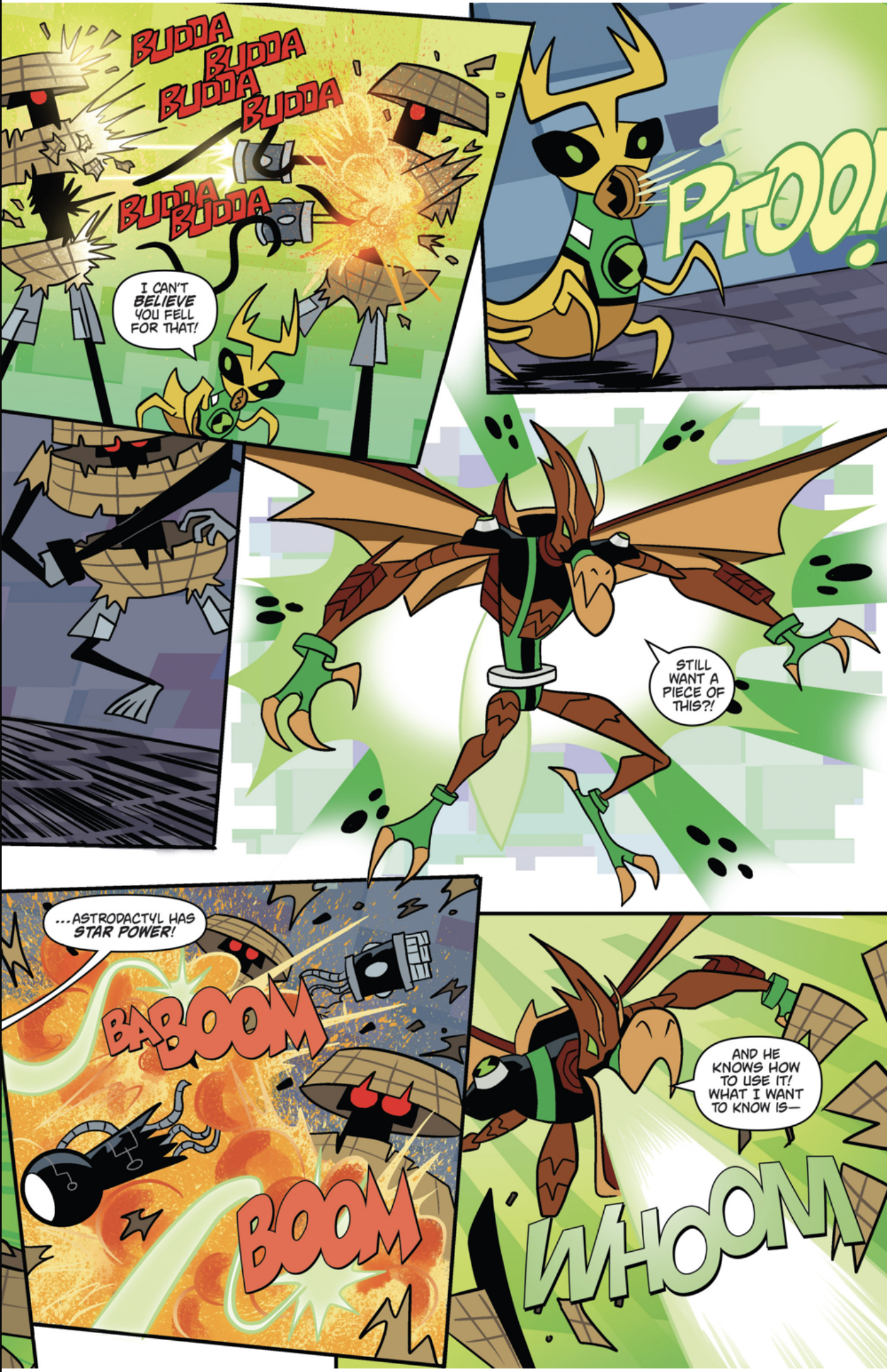
AS AKU—SHAPESHIFTING MASTER OF DARKNESS AND PRIME PROGENITOR OF ROBOWORLD—THE HONOR OF FIRST SELECTION IS MINE!
I CHOOSE SAMURAI JACK—A POWERFUL MASTER WARRIOR! HE AND I HAVE... HISTORY, AND WE WILL TAKE HIM FIRST.
MANDARK, OUR HUMBLE APPRENTICE. YOU MAY CHOOSE A ROBOT TO FACE HIM!
I SUGGEST... THIS ONE.
ONE OF COMPUTRON'S MINIONS? SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO SEND TWO? OH WELL, SINCE IT'S "MY" CHOICE...
?!


DESTROY ALL FLESH!
SHRAK-BOOM!
THWP
SHWP

CHONK!
SKREEE!
WHAT—?!
1
2
CAPTURED! YOU SEE HOW WELL MY PLAN IS WORKING.
AKU!
LEAVE IT TO SAMURAI JACK TO STATE THE OBVIOUS.
VILGAX, THE CONTROLS ARE NOW YOURS.
THAT WAS NO CONTEST, AKU! MY CANDIDATE, BEN TENNYSON, IS UP FOR A REAL CHALLENGE.
SHALL I SCRY—?

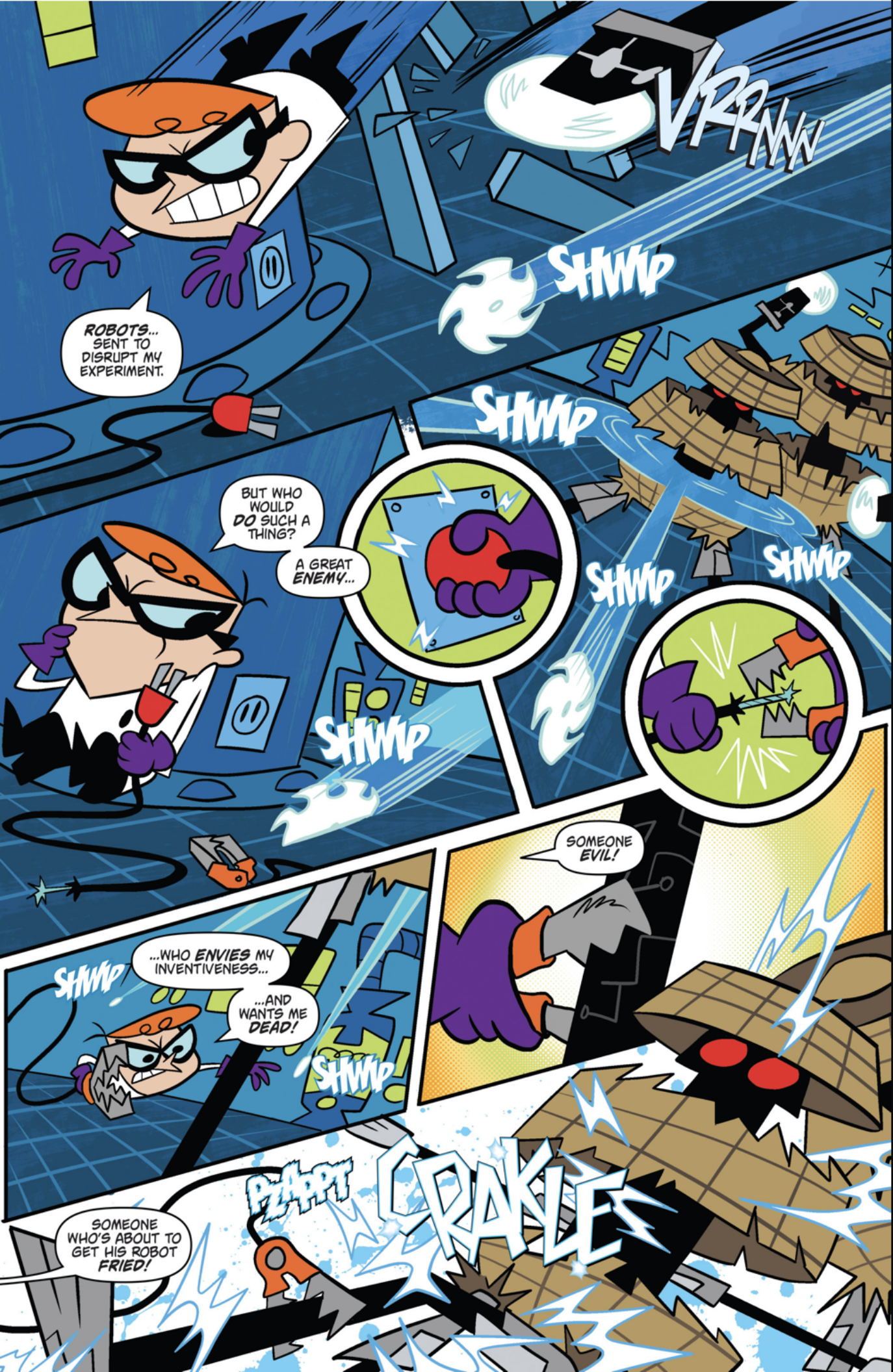
NO, THANK YOU, AKU. I PREFER THE MONITOR SCREEN I DESIGNED.
IT WILL CAPTURE EVERY DETAIL AS BEN 10 SHREDS YOUR ULTRA-ROBOTS.
AND, FOR OUR ENJOYMENT, WILL PRESERVE IT FOR MULTIPLE VIEWINGS.
YOU'RE TAKING ONLY SIX OF THEM?
I'M LEAVING YOUR LESSER BOTS BEHIND. THEY SEEM A BIT REDUNDANT.
YOU JUST KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT, VILGAX.
LET'S SEE IF YOUR CANDIDATE CAN PROVE HIMSELF WORTHY TO JOIN OUR LITTLE PARTY!
HOW MANY TRANSFORMATIONS WILL BEN 10 NEED TO DEFEAT MY ROBOTS... IF HE CAN DEFEAT THEM. SIX? SEVEN?
THOUGH HIS OMNITRIX CONTAINS THOUSANDS OF POSSIBLE TRANSFORMATIONS, THE BOY WILL USE NO MORE THAN TWO... OR THREE, AT MOST.
WE HAVE COME TO DESTROY YOU!
10

HATE TO DISAPPOINT YOU—
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA
—BUT IT AIN'T HAPPENIN'!
BWAH-OOMB!
HALF OF YOU ARE ALREADY FRIED!
WELL, IT'S YOUR CHOICE!
I GOTTA TELL YOU...


BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FELL FOR THAT!
PTOO!
STILL WANT A PIECE OF THIS?!
...ASTRODACTYL HAS STAR POWER!
BABOOM
BOOM
AND HE KNOWS HOW TO USE IT! WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS—
WHOOM

—WHO WERE THOSE GUYS AND—?
HEY! WHAT'S...
...GOING ON?
WHERE AM I?
WHO ARE—?
ASK THEM.
I BELIEVE I CAN ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS... IN DUE TIME.
REALLY, VILGAX? WERE THOSE ROBOTS THE BEST YOU COULD DO?
THEY'RE AKU'S, NOT MINE!
THEY BROUGHT YOU HERE, TO BE TRAPPED LIKE A BUG IN A JAR, DIDN'T THEY?

WHY DON'T YOU CHOOSE THE LESSER ULTRA-ROBOTS FOR THIS CHALLENGE!
NOW, APPRENTICE MANDARK, IT IS YOUR TURN.
AFTER ALL, THIS BOY DEXTER HAS NO POWERS BEYOND HIS SUPERIOR INTELLECT.
I WANTED TO SEND THE LITTLE GIRL ROBOT AFTER HIM.
SNORT! THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN WORTH WATCHING.
DEXTER WILL EAT THOSE TWO FOR BREAKFAST— EVEN THOUGH HE'S NOT NEARLY THE GENIUS I AM. STILL—
—IF YOU INSIST!
DONE! MY UBER-GENERATOR!
MY GREATEST INVENTION EVER IS NEARLY—
KER-SMASH!
THERE GOES MY IIIIIIDIOT SISTER.
BREAKING THINGS... AS USUAL!
DEE DEE! I TOLD YOU TO STAY OUT OF MY ROOM—
UH-OH!
SHWIP
SHWIP


VRRNNN
SHWIP
ROBOTS... SENT TO DISRUPT MY EXPERIMENT.
SHWIP
SHWIP
SHWIP
BUT WHO WOULD DO SUCH A THING?
A GREAT ENEMY...
SHWIP
SOMEONE EVIL!
SHWIP
...WHO ENVIES MY INVENTIVENESS...
...AND WANTS ME DEAD!
SHWIP
SOMEONE WHO'S ABOUT TO GET HIS ROBOT FRIED!
PZAPPT
CRAKLE

PZAPPT
CRACK!
I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL MANDARK HIS ROBOTS WERE AN—
—EPIC FAIL!
OH... I WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR!
WHO... OR WHAT... ARE ALL OF YOU?
MANDARK, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHEREVER HERE IS...!
YOUR QUESTION SHOULD BE—WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, DEXTER?
THE ANSWER IS—YOU'RE HERE TO HELP US CONQUER THE UNIVERSE!

AND NOW, FOR THE LAST... AND LEAST! EXCEPT IN VERBOSITY!
HERE, BANANA-FOR-BRAINS, THE CONTROLS ARE YOURS!
MY NAME IS MOJO JOJO AND I AM AS MUCH A GENIUS AS YOU ARE! MORE GENIUS! AND SMART AND...
THE POWERPUFF GIRLS MIGHT BE SMALL, YOUNG, IN FACT, LITTLE GIRLS—
—BUT THEY PACK A MIGHTY PUNCH! THEY HAVE MANY POWERS!
POWERS THAT ARE POWERFUL! AND POTENT.
THEY WILL KICK THIS COMPUTRON'S MINION'S MIGHTY METAL BUTT WHEN HE ARRIVES...
...IN THE CITY OF TOWNSVILLE.
DOG FOOD
HUH—?

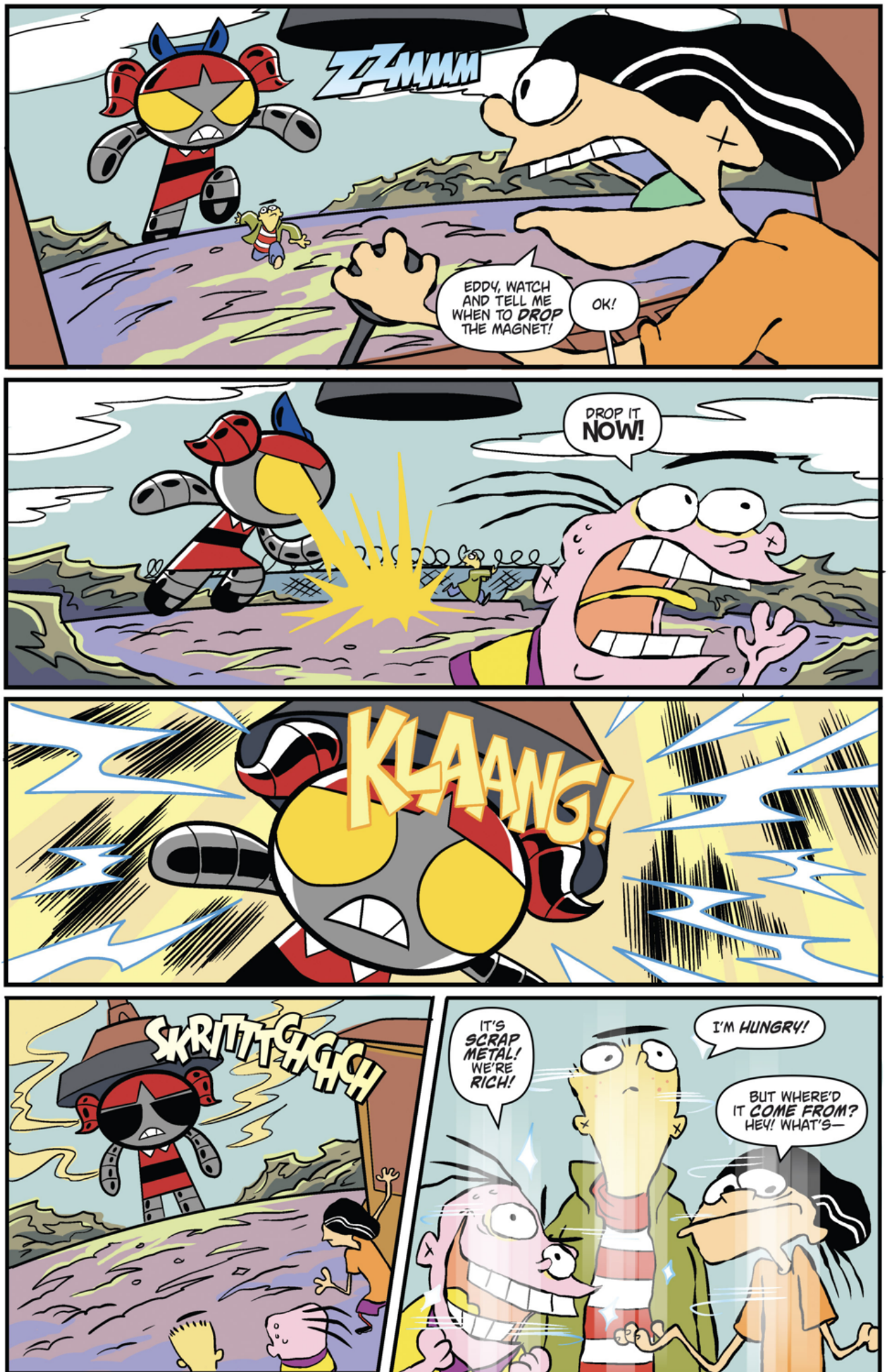
BUBBLES! BUTTERCUP! MOVE!
DESTROY ALL FLESH AND THE WORKS OF FLESH!
GOOD CALL, BLOSSOM!
UH-OH!
BUBBLES!!!
WHAMM
I'M OKAY BUT... WE'RE FLESH!
SO'S EVERYBODY IN TOWNSVILLE!
LET'S TEACH THIS ROBOT SOME MANNERS!
IT'S MOVING ON A ROLLER-BALL!
FREEZE-BREATH MIGHT STOP IT!
WOOSH
YES!

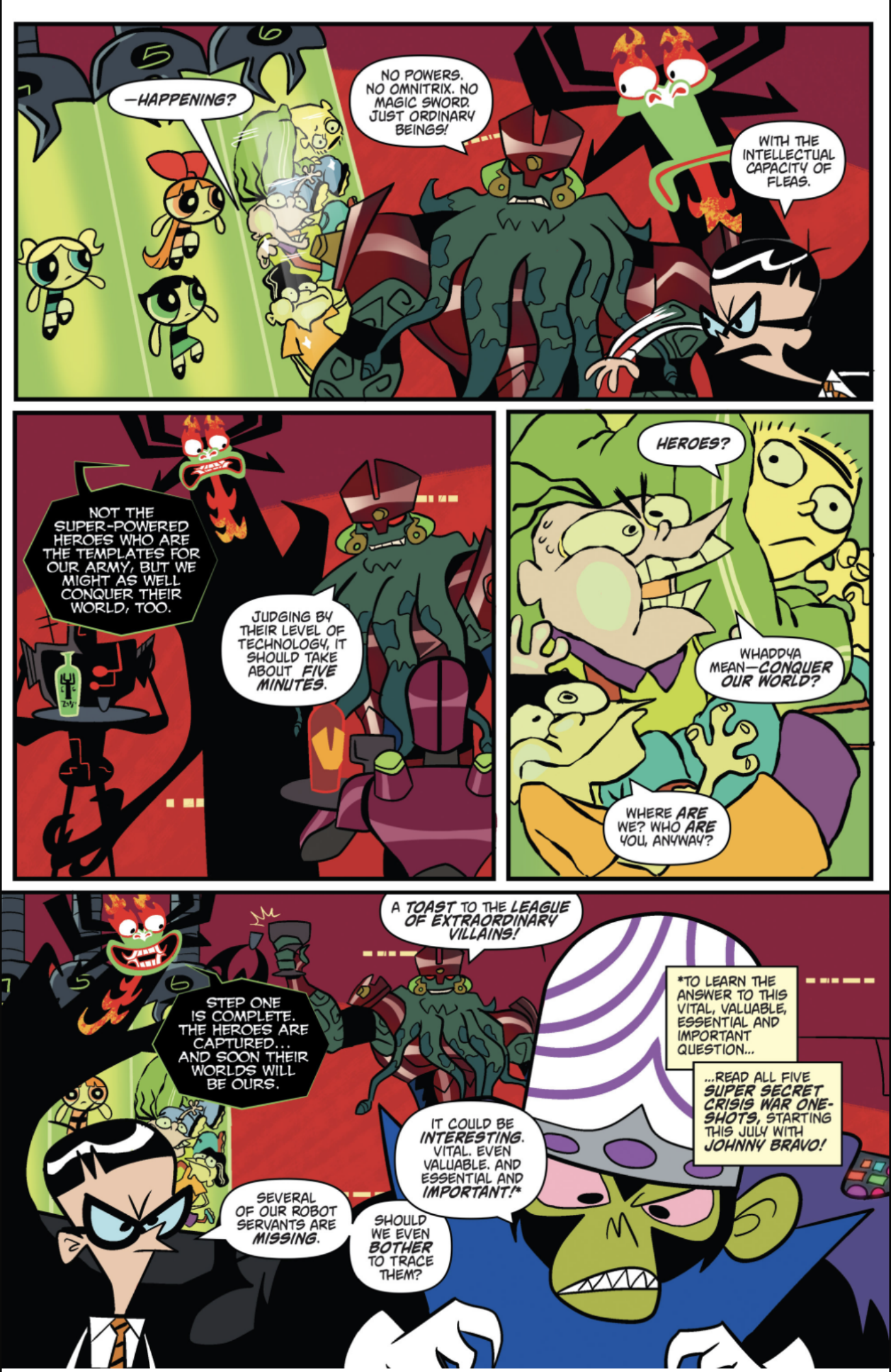
HMMMMMM
DESTROY ALL FLESH!
THAT'S A WEAPON IN ITS CHEST!
IT'S SO HUGE!
HOW CAN WE STOP IT?
WE FLATTEN IT, THAT'S HOW! COME ON—SHOVE!
HMMMMM
KERASH!!!
HMMMMM
HMMMMMMMM
IT BLEW ITSELF UP!
KAWOOMB
WE DID IT!
ICE BREATH RULES!
THAT SORT OF SEEMED TOO EASY!

ICE BREATH? IT WAS MY STRENGTH THAT TOPPLED IT!
BUT I STOPPED IT FIRST!
IT WAS WEIRD. WE HARDLY NEEDED TO USE ANY OF...
...OUR POWERS.
WHERE ARE WE?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
BUBBLES!
I TOLD YOU! SMALL BUT POWERFUL!
BIG THINGS COME IN LITTLE PACKAGES!
MOJO JOJO— WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

THE HEROES HAVE BEEN CAPTURED! LET US DRINK TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR SHARED VENTURE!
BRING MINOTONIAN SAKE!
CARPAXIAN WINE—FROM MY PRIVATE STORES!
YES, MASTER OF DARKNESS! COMING, DEMON LORD! IT IS OUR HONOR TO ASSUAGE YOUR THIRST!
INSTANTLY, LORD VILGAX! AS YOU DESIRE! YOUR WISH IS OUR COMMAND!
TRINK!
SLAM!
MOVE! YOU'LL MAKE ME SPILL! OW!
CRASH!
OUT OF MY WAY! OUR MASTER COMMANDS US! OUCH!
WHAM!
WHAM!
SLOSH!
SPLASH!
FZZ
DARK FORCES! DO YOU SEE THAT?!
AKU, CONTROL YOUR SERVANTS!
YOU'RE ONE TO TALK!
MASTERS—AND I SO HATE CALLING YOU THAT!—WE HAVE A LARGER PROBLEM!
THE DYNAMIC NANOTECHTRONIC MONOBOT—THE DYNAMO!—IS MISSING!
NOT TO MENTION SEVERAL OF YOUR FAITHFUL ROBOT SERVANTS!

THE DYNAMO WENT SOMEWHERE. BUT WHERE? I MUST FIND IT! LOCATE ITS LOCATION...
THE LAST JAWBREAKER—! SIGH.
THERE!
WHO ARE THEY?
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?
UH... A GIANT ROBOT LITTLE GIRL?
RUN!
THEN WHAT—?
WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO TURN THAT MONSTER INTO SCRAP METAL!


ZZMMMM
EDDY, WATCH AND TELL ME WHEN TO DROP THE MAGNET!
OK!
DROP IT NOW!
KLAANG!
SKRITTTCHCHCH
IT'S SCRAP METAL! WE'RE RICH!
I'M HUNGRY!
BUT WHERE'D IT COME FROM? HEY! WHAT'S—


—HAPPENING?
NO POWERS. NO OMNITRIX. NO MAGIC SWORD. JUST ORDINARY BEINGS!
WITH THE INTELLECTUAL CAPACITY OF FLEAS.
NOT THE SUPER-POWERED HEROES WHO ARE THE TEMPLATES FOR OUR ARMY, BUT WE MIGHT AS WELL CONQUER THEIR WORLD, TOO.
JUDGING BY THEIR LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY, IT SHOULD TAKE ABOUT FIVE MINUTES.
HEROES?
WHADDYA MEAN—CONQUER OUR WORLD?
WHERE ARE WE? WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
A TOAST TO THE LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY VILLAINS!
STEP ONE IS COMPLETE. THE HEROES ARE CAPTURED... AND SOON THEIR WORLDS WILL BE OURS.
*TO LEARN THE ANSWER TO THIS VITAL, VALUABLE, ESSENTIAL AND IMPORTANT QUESTION...
...READ ALL FIVE SUPER SECRET CRISIS WAR ONE-SHOTS, STARTING THIS JULY WITH JOHNNY BRAVO!
IT COULD BE INTERESTING. VITAL. EVEN VALUABLE. AND ESSENTIAL AND IMPORTANT!*
SEVERAL OF OUR ROBOT SERVANTS ARE MISSING.
SHOULD WE EVEN BOTHER TO TRACE THEM?

SUPER SECRET LETTERS COLUMN!

SARAH GAYDOS & CARLOS GUZMAN - Enchanting Editors

Let's hear your thoughts! Write in to letters@idwpublishing.com with the subject line SUPER SECRET FAN MAIL!

CARLOS: Hey, everyone! I'm Carlos Guzman, co-editor of SUPER SECRET CRISIS WAR! Welcome to our Super Secret Letters Column, where we'll field your questions and comments, show off some cool behind-the-scenes details, and feature awesome fan art from you guys and gals.

Whoa! This story is barely getting started and all our heroes are already captured! Looks like Aku's League of Extraordinary Villains is already a great success. But these sinister scoundrels have big plans for Samurai Jack, Ben 10, Dexter, the Powerpuff Girls and... Ed, Edd and Eddy? Well, maybe not for those last three, but the rest of our courageous champions are in for some trouble! Find out what Aku, Vilgax, Mandark and Mojo Jojo have in store in 30 days.

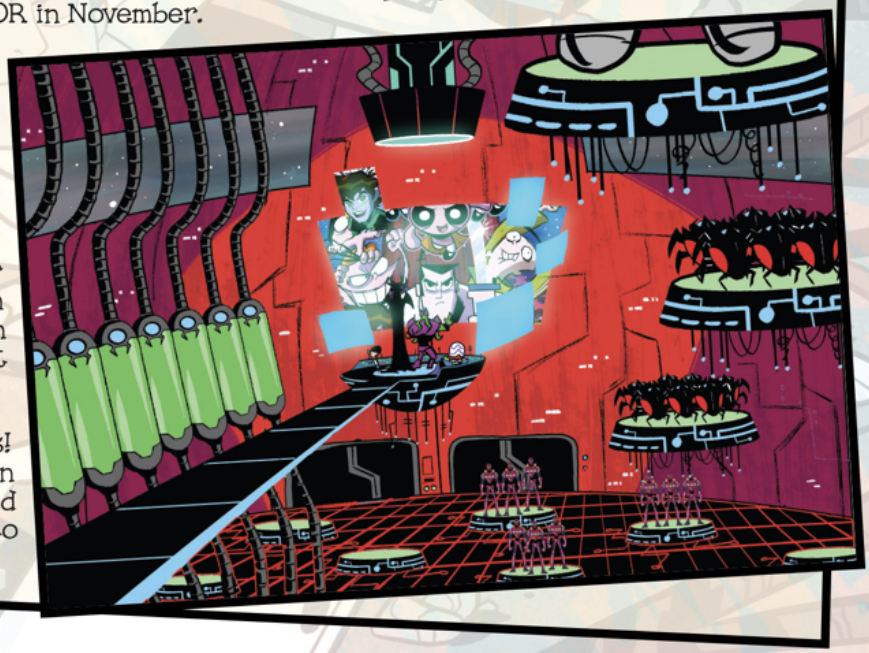
But that's not all! With all those Aku and Vilgax robots beamed off to gosh-knows where, we needed more comics to contain this awesome story. Starting next month, we'll be launching a series of one-shot stories featuring fan-favorite characters. It'll start with JOHNNY BRAVO getting a taste of these metal miscreants in July, followed by GRIM ADVENTURES OF BILLY AND MANDY in August, FOSTER'S HOME FOR IMAGINARY FRIENDS in September, COW AND CHICKEN in October and CODENAME: KIDS NEXT DOOR in November. These issues will even feature a bonus prequel story that tells the origin story of Aku's League of Extraordinary Villains. It's gonna be six epic months of cosmic cartoon stories!

Enough outta me! Co-editor extraordinaire Sarah Gaydos has the scoop on some cool stuff. Take it away, Sarah!

SARAH: Hi, readers! Thanks for joining us on this crazy adventure. I'd like to introduce you to SUPER SECRET CRISIS WAR! writer Louise Simonson and artist Derek Charm. They're going to talk a bit about the development of this series... specifically, let's hear how Louise had the idea for Aku's spaceship and the awesome Aku and Vilgax robots, and how Derek made them come to life in the pages of this very comic!

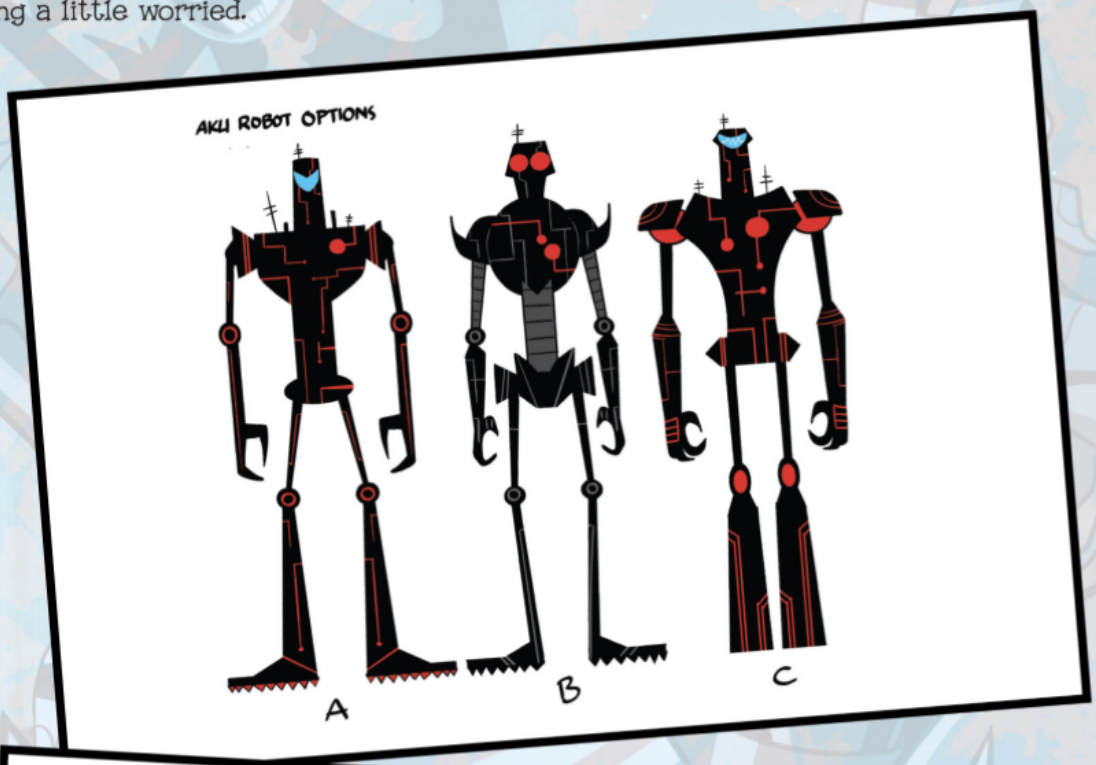
LOUISE: SUPER SECRET CRISIS WAR! is, at heart, a science-fiction epic with the fate of the universe hanging in the balance. So, of course, supervillains are involved. Aku—the self-proclaimed Shapeshifting Master of Darkness and Living Embodiment of Evil—forms the team and takes the dominant role. As everyone knows, a supervillain worth his name needs a lair, full of flair and worthy of his wickedness. Derek Charm's design for the RoboStar couldn't look more authentic. It's as if Derek was able to read the mind of the terrible Aku himself!

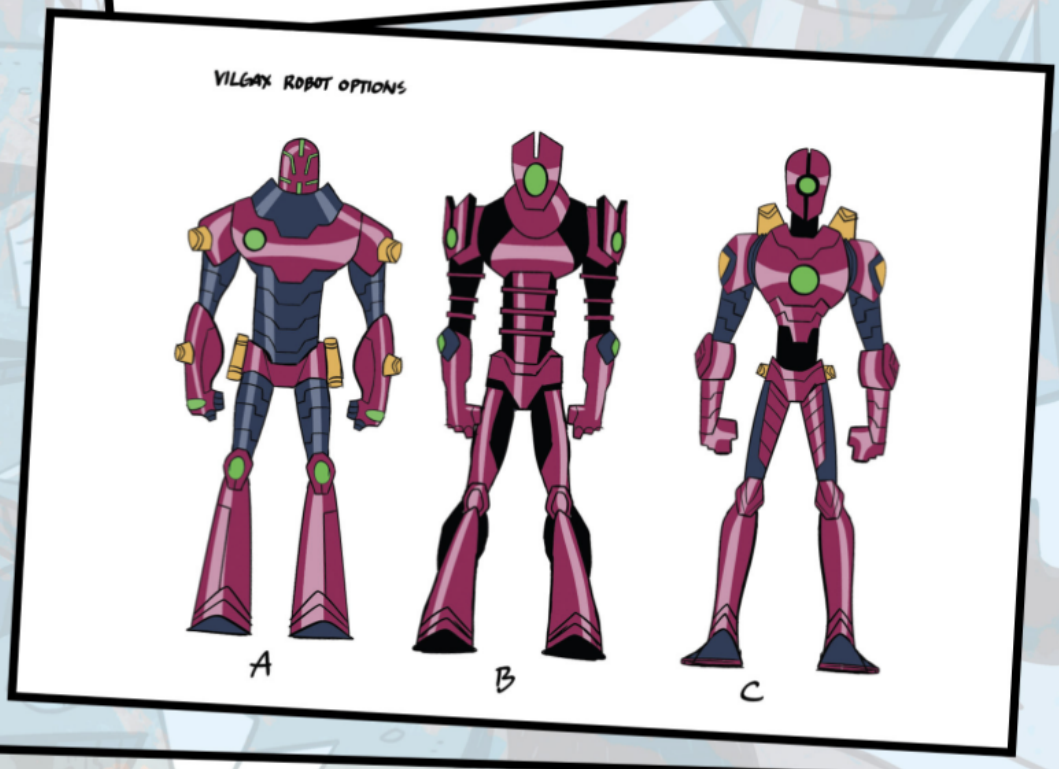
DEREK: Knowing that the satellite that acts as the villain's headquarters was designed by Aku, I took visual cues from the SAMURAI JACK TV series and included a lot of Aku's signature elements. The inside has blood-red walls and black floors, with harsh green accents wherever possible. Their control panel floats over the rest of the giant, circular room where warp pads hover—ready to send their robot armies anywhere in the universe. On the outside, Aku's familiar spikes and spires cover the solid black station in his over-the-top style.



LOUISE: The best (worst?) supervillains have plans too big for them to accomplish alone. They need minions, in this case, minions by the hundreds. (From a writer's perspective, they would fulfill many functions, providing both humor and action, and personalizing the villains' rivalries.) Aku and Vilgax—arguably the most villainous in the League of Extraordinary Villains—each have their own robot minions, based on their personal aesthetics. Derek Charm designed these robots as if he could read the villains' minds. If I didn't know Derek worked on the side of good, I'd be getting a little worried.

DEREK: It was really exciting to be able to design a new robotic army for Aku and Vilgax for this series! The first thing I considered was what made Aku and Vilgax visually different, so you would recognize which robot was whose right away. Aku's design sense as seen in SAMURAI JACK was always very black and industrial, so I went with a harsher look with his robot options. Vilgax—on the other hand—seems to favor a cleaner, more elegant look. His robots share the colored metal from his own armor, and a more sleek, humanoid look.

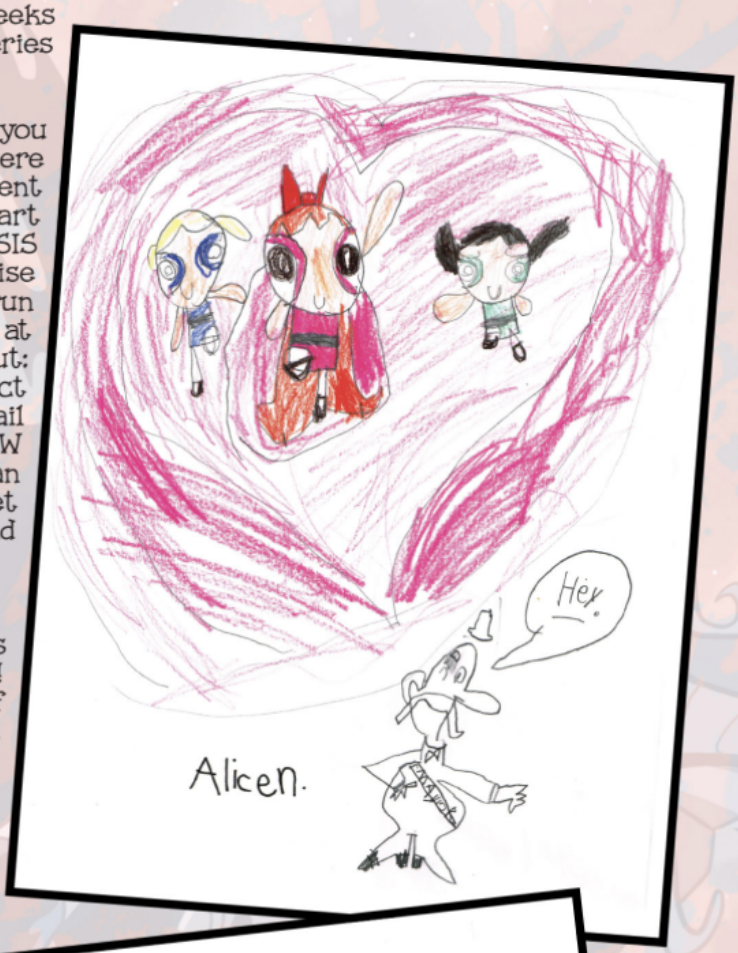




SARAH: Thanks, Louise and Derek! We'll be bringing you more of these peeks behind the creation of this series every month!

Also, we know there's a bunch of you budding artists and writers out there who are itching to share your talent with the world. Send us your art inspired by SUPER SECRET CRISIS WAR! and your questions for Louise and the Editorial team, and we'll run it in the comic! Email us at letters@idwpublishing.com (put: Super Secret Fan Mail in the subject line), or send them through the mail to Super Secret Fan Mail c/o IDW Publishing, 5080 Santa Fe St., San Diego, CA 92109. Remember to get your parents' permission first, and see this note below. *

To get this party started, here's some art from Alicen and Hayden! They're big fans of Powerpuff Girls... and of their dad, Troy Little, who draws and writes IDW's Powerpuff Girls comics!



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